

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**1-104. (Cancelled)**

105. A method for providing glutathione to a subject without relying on *de novo* glutathione biosynthesis pathway comprising administering a sulfhydryl protected glutathione prodrug to a subject in need of such treatment, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione prodrug produces glutathione in the subject without relying on the subject's own *de novo* glutathione biosynthesis pathway.
106. The method of claim 105, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione prodrug produces glutathione in addition to glutathione produced via *de novo* glutathione biosynthesis pathway in the subject.
107. The method of claim 105, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione prodrug is selected from the group consisting of L-CySSG, GSSMA, GSSME, S-Ac-GSH-OEt, a derivative thereof and a combination thereof.
108. The method of claim 105, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione prodrug is provided in a pharmaceutical composition.
109. The method of claim 105, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione prodrug is provided as a dietary supplement.
110. The method of claim 105, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione is a racemic or scalemic mixture of L-CySSG.
111. The method of claim 105, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione is a L-CySSG mixture optically enriched in the enantiomer having the same absolute configuration as L-Cysteine.

- 112.** A method for maintaining glutathione homeostasis in a subject with impaired glutathione biosynthesis pathway comprising administering to a subject in need of such treatment an effective amount of a sulfhydryl protected glutathione prodrug, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione prodrug produces glutathione in the subject without relying on the subject's own *de novo* glutathione biosynthesis pathway.
- 113.** The method of claim 112, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione prodrug produces glutathione in addition to glutathione produced via *de novo* glutathione biosynthesis pathway in the subject.
- 114.** The method of claim 112, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione prodrug is selected from the group consisting of L-CySSG, GSSMA, GSSME, S-Ac-GSH-OEt, a derivative thereof and a combination thereof.
- 115.** The method of claim 112, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione prodrug is provided in a pharmaceutical composition.
- 116.** The method of claim 112, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione prodrug is provided as a dietary supplement.
- 117.** The method of claim 112, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione is a racemic or scalemic mixture of L-CySSG.
- 118.** The method of claim 112, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione is a L-CySSG mixture optically enriched in the enantiomer having the same absolute configuration as L-Cysteine.
- 119.** A method for maintaining cellular antioxidant level in a subject comprising administering to a subject in need of such treatment an effective amount of a sulfhydryl protected glutathione prodrug, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione prodrug produces glutathione in the subject without relying on the subject's own *de novo* glutathione biosynthesis pathway.

120. The method of claim 119, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione prodrug produces glutathione in addition to glutathione produced via *de novo* glutathione biosynthesis pathway in the subject.
121. The method of claim 119, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione prodrug is selected from the group consisting of L-CySSG, GSSMA, GSSME, S-Ac-GSH-OEt, a derivative thereof and a combination thereof.
122. The method of claim 119, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione prodrug is provided in a pharmaceutical composition.
123. The method of claim 119, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione prodrug is provided as a dietary supplement.
124. The method of claim 119, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione is a racemic or scalemic mixture of L-CySSG.
125. The method of claim 119, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione is a L-CySSG mixture optically enriched in the enantiomer having the same absolute configuration as L-Cysteine.
126. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a unit dosage amount of sulfhydryl protected glutathione prodrug, wherein the unit dosage amount is an amount suitable for human treatment.
127. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 126, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione prodrug is selected from the group consisting of L-CySSG, GSSMA, GSSME, S-Ac-GSH-OEt, a derivative thereof and a combination thereof.
128. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 126, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione is a racemic or scalemic mixture of L-CySSG.

- 129. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 126, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione is a L-CySSG mixture optically enriched in the enantiomer having the same absolute configuration as L-Cysteine.
- 130. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 126, wherein the unit dosage amount is from about 50 to about 500 milligrams.
- 131. A comestible composition comprising a sulfhydryl protected glutathione prodrug.
- 132. The comestible composition of claim 131, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione prodrug is provided in a food or beverage formulation.
- 133. The comestible composition of claim 131, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione prodrug is provided in a dietary supplement formulation.
- 134. The comestible composition of claim 131, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione prodrug is selected from the group consisting of L-CySSG, GSSMA, GSSME, S-Ac-GSH-OEt, a derivative thereof and a combination thereof.
- 135. The comestible composition of claim 131, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione is a racemic or scalemic mixture of L-CySSG.
- 136. The comestible composition of claim 131, wherein the sulfhydryl protected glutathione is a L-CySSG mixture optically enriched in the enantiomer having the same absolute configuration as L-Cysteine.